

## To Acquire LC/MS Data

### Modes of Acquisition

There are three modes of acquiring data:

- Running a method for a single sample
- Running a sequence for multiple samples
- Running an FIA series

Note the following about acquiring data:

- All three acquisition modes require an appropriate method.
- Samples may be injected either manually or with an ALS.
- A run must always be started from the software.
- An FIA method cannot be used in a sequence but multiple FIA methods can be run sequentially.

### To Edit a Method and Start a Run

Once you know the acquisition mode you want to use, you need to set up an appropriate method. Methods are set up in the Method and Run Control view.

- 1 Select **Method / Load Method** or click the **Open Method** button on the toolbar. Choose a method from the list.
- 2 Select **Method / Edit Entire Method**. This menu item is also available when you click the method icon on the system diagram.

Once you select to edit a method, a series of dialog boxes will be displayed that let you set up your method and instrument parameters.

Click the **Help** button on any of the following dialog boxes for descriptive information on the items available.

- 3 Select the method sections you want to edit (select all sections to become familiar with the method parameters that are available).
- 4 Add any method comments you want to appear on your reports.
- 5 Set up the instrument parameters:
  - set up the pump parameters
  - set up the injector parameters
  - set up the DAD (or VWD) parameters
  - set up the column thermostat parameters
  - set up the MSD signals
  - set up the MSD spray chamber
- 6 Set up the Data Analysis parameters:
  - set up the signal details
  - edit integration events
  - specify report parameters
  - select the instrument curves
  - select the calibration curves
  - set up the calibration table
  - find the ion parameters
- 7 Complete the Run Time Checklist.
- 8 Save the method using a different name. Select **Method / Save Method As** or click the **Save Method** button on the toolbar.

Once you are familiar with the options that are available, you can use the system diagram menus for quick access to particular method parameters, rather than using the edit entire method process.
- 9 When you are ready to begin a run, click the **Start** button.